

SABR
Biographical Research Committee
May/June 2010 Report
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James Brown Found

I feel good! James Donaldson Brown has finally been found. Not counting the Cubans, James Brown was the most recent player for whom we were missing a death date, as he played for the Cardinals in 1915 and the Athletics in 1916. We had found a lot on his family, tracking down death dates of both his parents and all of his siblings. He was quite a mystery. Not only did he have a very common name, he was known by both James and Don. About 20 years ago, I spoke with his niece who called him Don. She was a bit senile, knew that he played baseball, but knew nothing else about him.

He was listed in the Los Angeles city directories at various times as a ballplayer, actor, and studio worker. We had traced him through the directories as late as 1942, and his divorce was listed in the Los Angeles Times in 1940. Surprisingly, he did not appear in the California death index. Once living in California, people tend to stay there. At this point, we were at a dead end. It was the website familysearch.org that came to the rescue. A search for Brown turned up his death record in the Oregon death certificates. He died October 22, 1944 in Bradwood, Oregon. The death certificate said that he was a resident of Hollywood, worked as a carpenter for a movie firm, and that he had been in Oregon for two months. He was buried in Oregon, so it would have been interesting to know what he was doing there. Bradwood is in a pretty remote part of Oregon. He may have been on location for a movie. In any event, this is a terrific find and is our *Find of the Month*.

Pony Sager

Samuel "Pony" Sager played for the Rockford Forest Citys in 1871. He had always been listed as being from Marshalltown, Iowa, the same hometown as Cap Anson. He certainly was an associate of Anson's, but years of research failed to turn up any Samuel Sager from Marshalltown. Notes on Sager indicated he was from the Philadelphia area, but it was difficult to pin down who he was from the census. The key to identifying him was a note that said his family moved to Charlestown, New Hampshire in 1866. That led us to the 1870 census listing for Samuel Sager, age 22, born in Pennsylvania, son of Samuel and Jane. We were able to track him to Wakefield, Massachusetts, where he disappeared in 1925. Once again, familysearch.org came through. They added New Hampshire deaths, and Samuel Sager appears there, dying in Newport, New Hampshire October 15, 1928. The parents and wife match, so it is clearly our ballplayer. It's tough to find those National Association players.

John Tilley

John Tilley was an outfielder with Cleveland in 1882 and split time between Toledo of the American Association and St. Paul of the Union Association in 1884. Making Mario Mendoza look like Ty Cobb, he compiled a .138 lifetime average. The New York Clipper had a nice profile on him in 1883. He was from New York City and had played with a variety of New York amateur teams. He appears in the 1860 through 1880 census in Manhattan. In 1879, he married Carrie Fuller.

Moving ahead just a bit, in 1906 there was an old-timers game in Chicago. One of the participants

was John C. Tilley, who had previously played with Toledo. In 1893, the Chicago Interocean reported that John and Carrie Tilley were getting a divorce because he was a drunkard and was having an affair. Tilley was listed in the Chicago city directories from 1891 through 1906 as a manager, salesman, and bartender. At some point, he moves away from Chicago and in the 1920 census, shows up in Newark, New Jersey. He is listed in the Newark city directories through 1926. This gave us enough information to look for a death certificate, and he was found to have died March 6, 1927 in Newark.

Peter Galligan

In the last newsletter, I posted a note from Richard Malatzky that James E. Gallagher was actually Peter Gallagher. There were various notes that Gallagher had later become a state senator in Illinois. That should make him fairly easy to find, but there was a bit of a problem. He was nowhere to be found. Peter Morris checked the box score of the game in the Chicago Interocean and saw that it was spelled Galligan. A simple Google search found a Peter Galligan who played baseball and later became a state senator. It's always nice when these things fall into place. That made it easy to find his death certificate and show that he died May 20, 1917 in Chicago.

John Terry

John Terry pitched for the Detroit Tigers in 1902 and the St. Louis Browns in 1903. We had listed him as John Buchard Terry. The listing always seemed suspicious because nothing could be found connecting this man to baseball. Terry was a St. Louis boy and there were several articles that he was a pitcher with an amateur team called the Diels. There was a John B. Terry listed in St. Louis at the time. He lived in St. Louis from 1899-1905 and the 1900 census showed that he was born in September of 1877 in Iowa. That led to the WWI registration of John Baxter Terry, born September 4, 1877 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He was running his own wholesaling business. The Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette of February, 8, 1915 contains the link to baseball. It states that John B. Terry of the J. B. Terry Company was a former pitcher and third baseman. Terry died January 10, 1958 in Cedar Rapids.

C. B. White Shown to be a Phantom

A player that had been listed as C. B. White played one game for Philadelphia in 1883. He has been listed in encyclopedias for years as C. B. White from Wakeman, Ohio. Where this came from, I know not, but it has had us trying to find a guy for years that apparently didn't exist. Richard Malatzky found a note in the Philadelphia Inquirer that the player had come from the Akron team. Research into the Akron team showed that this player was William Dighton White, who later played with Pittsburgh, Louisville, and St. Louis.

Cliff Kachline

Once again, I have to report some sad news. Cliff Kachline, one of SABR's founders, and a former chairman of this committee died on June 28. I first heard about the biographical committee when Cliff gave a report on it at the 1979 SABR convention. Cliff made it sound so interesting that I decided that the biographical committee was the one I wanted to join. He is one of the true founding fathers of this committee and was always extremely helpful and kind. He will definitely be missed.

Yoseloff Grant

Congratulations are in order for Rich Bowering. Rich received a Yoseloff Grant to write a biography

of Mike Kelly. Mike Kelly was once one of our most wanted missing players. He pitched briefly for the 1926 Phillies, but his life was far more colorful than that. It should be a fascinating story.

Charles Kelly

Charles Kelly played for Philadelphia in both 1883 and 1886. The only note I have on him says that he played for the Philadelphia Solar Tips in 1883. The common name and the fact that he was apparently from Philadelphia makes this one doubly difficult. But since we had such a good month finding players, I thought it was time for a really difficult *Mystery of the Month*.

Birthday List

Here are the nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in July and August.

July 4	Mike Palagyi	93
July 10	Chuck Stevens	92
July 11	George Binks	96
July 19	Phil Cavarretta	94
July 26	Eddie Bockman	90
July 31	Fred Bradley	90
August 9	Ralph Houk	91
August 9	Fred Sanford	91
August 10	Buddy Lewis	94
August 11	Connie Marrero	99
August 11	Luis Olmo	91
August 31	Danny Litwhiler	94

Scoreboard

CATEGORY	IN	OUT	PCT
Names	17359	47	99.730
Births	16830	576	96.691
Assumed Alive	8495		48.805
Deaths	8660	251	49.753
Bats	16166	1124	93.499
Throws	16383	907	94.754
Heights	16546	744	95.697
Weights	16498	792	95.419
Debut Dates	17406	0	100.000
Questionnaires	9983	7423	57.354
Total			92.4041

New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

None

New Information Received:

DEBUT YR	NAME	CHANGE OR ADD	SOURCE
1919	Allen, Robert	Cemetery: Bronswood Cemetery, <u>Oak Brook, Illinois</u> Source: <u>Gazetteer</u>	(L7)
1990	Azocar, Oscar Gregorio (Azocar)	D: <u>Jun 14 2010 Valencia, Carabobo, Venezuela</u> Cemetery: <u>Jardines del Recuerdo, Valencia, Carabobo, Venezuela</u> Source: <u>mlb</u>	(N5)
1963	Bowens, Samuel Edward	B: Mar 23 <u>1938</u> Source: <u>North Carolina birth index</u>	(F4)
1915	Brown, James Donaldson	B: Mar 31 <u>1891</u> D: <u>Oct 22 1944 Bradwood, Oregon</u> Cemetery: <u>Greenwood Cemetery, Astoria, Oregon</u> Source: <u>Death certificate</u>	(M4)
1884	Buker, Henry L.	Name: Henry <u>Leslie</u> Buker Source: <u>Death certificate</u>	(R4)
1962	Burdette, Freddie Thomason	D: <u>Jun 1 2010 Albany, Georgia</u> Cemetery: <u>Riverside Cemetery, Albany, Georgia</u> Source: <u>Funeral home</u>	(N5)
1942	Burich, William Max	D: <u>Dec 25 2009 Apple Valley, California</u> Source: <u>tributes.com</u>	(C1)
1947	Castiglione, Peter Paul	Cemetery: <u>Forest Lawn North Cemetery, Pompano Beach, Florida</u> Source: <u>Funeral home</u>	(R4)
1917	Caton, James Howard	B: Jul 16 <u>1894</u> Source: <u>1900 census, WWI draft registration</u>	(H7)
1902	Clay, Frederick C.	Real name: <u>Frederick C. Kleeh</u> Source: <u>1880 census</u>	(M4)
1895	Corcoran, John A.	Name: John <u>James</u> Corcoran Source: <u>Cincinnati city directory</u>	(M4)
1883	Cramer, William B.	Debut: May <u>11</u> 1883 Source: <u>Box score</u>	(M3)
1884	Cusick, Andrew Daniel	Name: Andrew <u>J.</u> Cusick Source: <u>1900 census</u>	(M3)
1911	Dale, Emmett Eugene	Cemetery: <u>Cremated, interred at Valhalla Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri</u> Source: <u>Cemetery</u>	(W4)
1904	Elliott, Claud Judson	Name: <u>Claude</u> Judson Elliott Source: <u>Grandson</u>	(F4)
1914	Farrell, John Joseph	Name: John <u>Edward</u> Farrell B: <u>Dec 19 1892</u>	(A3)

		D: <u>Mar 24 1918</u> Source: <u>Death certificate</u>	
1997	Foulke, Keith Charles	B: <u>Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota</u> Source: <u>mlb</u>	(C1)
1886	Gallagher, Peter J.	Name: <u>Peter F. Galligan</u> B: <u>Jan 1860 Chicago, Illinois</u> D: <u>May 20 1917 Chicago, Illinois</u> Cemetery: <u>Calvary Cemetery, West Chicago, Illinois</u> Source: <u>1870 census, Chicago Tribune</u>	(M4)
1978	Gates, Joseph Daniel	Cemetery: <u>Oak Hill Cemetery, Gary, Indiana</u> Source: <u>Gary South Shore Railcats</u>	(C1)
1959	Hartman, Robert Louis	D: <u>Jan 16 2010 Kenosha, Wisconsin</u> Cemetery: <u>Green Ridge Cemetery, Kenosha, Wisconsin</u> Source: <u>Kenosha News</u>	(H9)
1890	Hartnett, Patrick J.	<u>BR</u> Source: <u>Rochester Democrat</u>	(H2)
1898	Heydon, Michael Edward	Name: <u>Marion Edward Heydon</u> Source: <u>Indiana marriage record, cemetery</u>	(H6)
1964	Hoffman, John Edward	Cemetery: <u>Cremated</u> Source: <u>Son</u>	(H9)
1945	Holcombe, Kenneth Edward	D: <u>Mar 15 2010 Weaverville, North Carolina</u> Cemetery: <u>Cremated, ashes given to family</u> Source: <u>Asheville Citizen Times</u>	(C1)
1905	Jackson, Herbert	Name: <u>Herbert Benjamin Jackson</u> B: <u>Sep 24 1883</u> Height: <u>5-10.5</u> Source: <u>WWI draft registration, 1900 census</u>	(M4)
1896	Johnson, Albert J.	Name: <u>Ebenezer Tremayne Johnson</u> B: <u>Jan 19 1871 Portland, Ontario</u> D: <u>Nov 24 1960</u> Source: <u>Baptismal certificate, death certificate</u>	(M4)
1879	Kemmler, Rudolph	B: <u>Jan 1860</u> Source: <u>1900 census</u>	(M4)
1962	Kenworthy, Richard Lee	Cemetery: <u>Cremated, interred at Evergreen Cemetery, Red Oak, Iowa</u> Source: <u>Cemetery</u>	(W4)
1874	Knowdell, Jacob Augustus	B: <u>1855</u> Source: <u>Trenton Times</u>	(M3)
1967	Kubiak, Theodore Roger	Name: <u>Theodore Rodger Kubiak</u> Source: <u>Ted Kubiak</u>	(P1)
1970	Laxton, William Henry	Name: <u>William Harry Laxton</u> Source: <u>Media guides</u>	(P1)
1914	Leonard, Joseph Howard	Cemetery: <u>Calvary Cemetery, West Chicago, Illinois</u> Source: <u>Cemetery</u>	(A3)
1994	Lima, Jose Desiderio Rodriguez	D: <u>May 23 2010 Pasadena, California</u> Cemetery: <u>Las Charcas Cemetery, Santiago, Santiago, Dominican Republic</u> Source: <u>LA Dodgers</u>	(LA)
1905	Manuel, Mark Garfield	Cemetery: <u>Oak Ridge Cemetery, Kennett, Missouri</u> Source: <u>Cemetery</u>	(W4)
1949	Martin, Morris Webster	D: <u>May 25 2010 Washington, Missouri</u>	(C1)

		Cemetery: <u>St. Francis Borgia Cemetery, Washington, Missouri</u> Source: <u>Washington Missourian</u>	
1950	Martinez, Rogelio (Ulloa)	Name: Rogelio Bautista Martinez (Ulloa) D: <u>May 24 2010 New London, Connecticut</u> Cemetery: <u>Cremated</u> Source: <u>Daughter</u>	(L6)
1904	McCormick, Michael J.	Name: Michael <u>Joseph</u> McCormick B: <u>Jul 27 1884 Jersey City, New Jersey</u> Source: <u>Springfield Republican, WWI registration, death certificate</u>	(M4)
1890	McKeough, David John	<u>BR</u> Source: <u>Rochester Democrat</u>	(H2)
1883	McLaughlin, Thomas	<u>BR</u> Source: <u>Rochester Democrat</u>	(H2)
1889	Meek, Frank J.	Cemetery: <u>Cremated, interred at Gatewood Gardens Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri</u> Source: <u>Cemetery</u>	(W4)
2001	Phillips, Jason Lloyd	Brother of Kyle Ray Phillips Source: <u>Marco Eagle</u>	(H9)
2009	Phillips, Kyle Ray	Brother of Jason Lloyd Phillips Source: <u>Marco Eagle</u>	(H9)
1877	Reis, Lawrence P.	Name: <u>Laurence</u> P. Reis Source: <u>Death certificate</u>	(M4)
1884	Rickley, Christian	<u>BR</u> Source: <u>Rochester Democrat</u>	(H2)
1948	Roberts, Robin Evan	Cemetery: <u>Cremated, ashes given to family</u> Source: <u>Church</u>	(R4)
2002	Robertson, Jeriome Paul	D: <u>May 29 2010 Exeter, California</u> Cemetery: <u>Exeter District Cemetery, Exeter, California</u> Source: <u>Visalia Times-Delta</u>	(L6)
1871	Sager, Samuel B.	B: <u>Aug 12 1848</u> D: <u>Oct 15 1928 Newport, New Hampshire</u> Cemetery: <u>Croydon Flat Cemetery, Croydon, New Hampshire</u> Source: <u>Death certificate</u>	(M4)
1971	Schlueter, Jay D.	Name: Jay <u>D</u> Schlueter Nickname: <u>JayD</u> D: <u>May 13 2010 Phoenix, Arizona</u> Cemetery: <u>Cremated, buried in Paradise Memorial Gardens, Scottsdale, Arizona</u> Source: <u>Wife</u>	(H9)
1927	Schulte, Fred William	Cemetery: <u>Belvidere Cemetery, Belvidere, Illinois</u> Source: <u>Cemetery</u>	(W4)
1882	Smith, Lewis J.	B: <u>1858 Baltimore, Maryland</u> Height: <u>5-10</u> Weight: <u>165</u> Source: <u>Harrisburg Patriot</u>	(M3)
1998	Smith, Robert Eugene	B: <u>May 10 1974</u> Source: <u>California birth index</u>	(F4)
1912	Sommers, Rudolph	B: <u>Oct 30 1887</u> Source: <u>WWI draft registration</u>	(W3)
1963	Stephenson, Jerry Joseph	D: <u>Jun 6 2010 Anaheim, California</u> Cemetery: <u>Holy Sepulcher Cemetery, Orange,</u>	(L6)

		<u>California</u> Source: <u>Orange County Register</u>	
1883	Suck, Charles Anthony	B: <u>Nov 11 1858</u> Source: <u>Death certificate</u>	(M4)
1955	Susce, George Daniel	D: <u>May 8 2010 Matlacha, Florida</u> Source: <u>Boston Globe</u>	(L6)
1902	Terry, John Buchard	Name: John <u>Baxter</u> Terry B: <u>Sep 4 1877 Fairfax, Iowa</u> D: <u>Jan 10 1958 Cedar Rapids, Iowa</u> Cemetery: <u>Cedar Memorial Park, Cedar Rapids, Iowa</u> Source: <u>Cedar Rapids Gazette</u>	(A3,M4)
1882	Tilley, John C.	B: <u>Aug 1854</u> D: <u>Mar 6 1927 Newark, New Jersey</u> Cemetery: <u>Cremated</u> Source: <u>Death certificate, 1900 census</u>	(M4)
2005	Vargas, Jason Matthew	B: <u>Apple Valley, California</u> Source: <u>California birth index</u>	(F4)
1883	White, C. B.	Delete player. Record belongs to William Dighton White. Source: <u>Philadelphia Inquirer</u>	(M3)
1884	White, William Dighton	Add record that formerly belonged to C. B. White Debut: <u>Jun 1 1883</u> Source: <u>Philadelphia Inquirer</u>	(M3)
1882	Wise, William E.	Height: <u>5-07</u> Weight: <u>142</u> Source: <u>Harrisburg Patriot</u>	(M3)
1936	Young, Norman Robert	D: <u>Everett, Massachusetts</u> Source: <u>Massachusetts death records</u>	(L6)